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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshitaka SASAKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3729

Application No.: 10/807,425

Examiner: P. KIM

Filed: March 24, 2004

Docket No.: 111654.02

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SLIDER OF THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the January 26, 2006 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Currently, claims 14-34 are pending.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 15-17, 19-29 and 32. These claims are not rewritten in independent form as their base claims are believed to be allowable as discussed below.

The Office Action rejects claims 14, 18, 30, 31, 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,470,565 to Sasaki ('565 patent). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

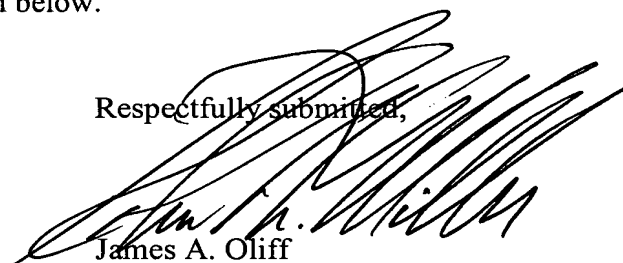
As stated by the attached Declarations executed separately by each inventor of this application, the subject matter of, at least, claim 14 was invented by Mr. Yoshitaka Sakaki only. The '565 patent is also invented by the same inventor. Accordingly, the subject matter, at least, of rejected claim 14, the rejected independent claim, was not invented by "another."

Accordingly, the '565 patent is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). As such, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 14-34 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Robert A. Miller
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JAO:KXH/hs

Attachments:

Declarations under 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Date: April 26, 2006

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